

CLAIMS

1. A method of viewing a sequence of media clips consisting essentially of a plurality of computer files, wherein a user of a local machine connected to a computer network having a one or more server computers connected thereto on which are physically located said files, one of said servers being the one with which the local machine primarily communicates having executing thereon software capable of decoding said files and consecutively playing said files or portions thereof, wherein said user creates a database or a set of records within a database stored on said one server computer consisting of a play list of said files in a particular order, said user further specifying a number of play variables relevant to each file played in the sequence, characterised in that on receiving a play command from the local machine, the software capable of decoding said files retrieves the physical location of the files in the sequence and the play variables relevant to each particular file in sequence and commences play thereof, said local machine having a viewer thereon by which the played files in the sequence can be viewed.

2. A method according to claim 1 wherein addition, amendment, and deletion of files from the play list and of play variables relevant to each file, and the viewing of the played sequence of files is conducted through a browser program having a suitable plug-in component loaded thereon allowing media clips to be viewed or heard.

3. A method according to claim 2 wherein the user is required to enter user specific information such as a user identifier and password to allow the server computer to identify said user and establish relevant access rights to said server computer and/or the various files physically stored thereon or elsewhere, said user specific information being used to retrieve

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information from said database regarding particular files and play variables previously defined by said user.

4. A method according to claim 3 wherein the database ensures that the data relevant to one or more sequences created by a user is linked to a user identifier to ensure that only sequences created by that user are accessible to that user after entering said user specific information.

5. A computer program for execution on a local machine and for viewing a sequence of media clips, said local machine being connected to a computer network having a one or more server computers connected thereto on which are physically located a plurality of files containing media clips, said local machine communicating primarily with one of said servers on which is executing software capable of decoding said files and consecutively playing said media clips or portions thereof, said program permitting communication with a database located on said server computer containing information describing a play list of said files in a particular order and further specifying a number of play variables relevant to each file played in the sequence, characterised in that said program retrieves the information describing said play list and the play variables from said database and communicates said information to the software capable of decoding the files and playing the media clips which subsequently loads said files or portions thereof consecutively and plays the media clips therefrom, said program further comprising viewing means for allowing a user to view the sequence of files played by the software capable of decoding.

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